

Emergency Meeting Minutes

Board of County Commissioners Hyde County

Monday, October 1, 2015

Vice-Chairman Earl Pugh, Jr. called the Emergency Meeting of the Hyde County Board of Commissioners to order at 12:00 (noon) on Thursday, October 1, 2015, in the Hyde County Government Center, Multi-Use Room, and the Ocracoke School Commons Room using electronic conferencing equipment.

The following members were present on the mainland: Commissioners Earl Pugh, Jr. and Commissioner Benjamin Simmons; County Manager Bill Rich; Clerk to the Board Lois Stotesberry; and, members of the public.

Chairman Barry Swindell and Commissioner Dick Tunnell participated via conference phone.

Attorney Fred Holscher was not in attendance.

The following members were present on Ocracoke: Commissioner John Fletcher, Public Information Officer Sarah Johnson and members of the public.

The meeting was called to order and the Commissioners discussed declaring a State of Emergency in Hyde County with Mandatory Evacuation of Ocracoke Island.

Bill Rich, County Manager, reported that due to high tides on South Dock and Hatteras the emergency meeting was moved from 5:00p.m. to 12:00 (noon) in order to begin preparation for the possible arrival of Hurricane Joaquin.

Justin Gibbs, Emergency Manager reported an evacuation shelter has to be designated before declaring a State of Emergency. Designated shelters in Rocky Mt. and in Bertie County have been notified and are preparing for intake.

Vice-Chairman Earl Pugh and the commissioners discussed the need for Highway Patrol assistance on the Island and at the ferry dock. The NC DOT Ferry Division reported only 8" clearance at the Hatteras Ferry dock and if the water continues to rise the ferry will be shut down. National Park Service (NPS) District Ranger Ed Fuller, reports the campground is now closed and visitors are being evacuated, effective at noon.

The Ocracoke Control Group met at 10:00a.m. to discuss present conditions and expected movement of Hurricane Joaquin. Manager Rich attended the meeting via electronic conferencing equipment. The Group scheduled a follow up meeting for 3:00p.m. on Thursday, October 1st.

Commissioner Tunnell moved to declare a State of Emergency for Hyde County with Mandatory Evacuation of Ocracoke Island as soon as a shelter can be opened. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Fletcher, Pugh, Tunnell, Simmons and Swindell; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.

Clerk's Note: A copy of "PROCLAMATION – State of Emergency for Hyde County - Mandatory Evacuation for Ocracoke Island" is attached herewith as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

Public Comment:

Peter Vankevich, Ocracoke Radio Station, will read public notices on the hour.

Jed Dixon, NC DOT Ferry Division, reported a time for the State of Emergency – Mandatory Evacuation for Ocracoke Island needs to be determined to allow an additional ten hours to move the ferries to safe harbor.

Conclusion:

Manager Rich thanked law enforcement for their assistance.

Justin Gibbs, EM Director, reported the State is coordinating a shelter and will advertise at 12:45p.m. where evacuees should go. Nash County has been designated host shelter for Ocracoke evacuees. Mr. Gibbs will announce the location and basic information.

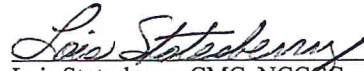
Adjourn:

Commissioner Simmons moved to adjourn the emergency meeting. Commissioner Tunnell seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Fletcher, Pugh, Tunnell, Simmons and Swindell; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.

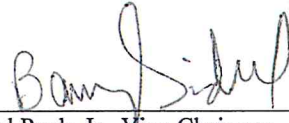
The emergency meeting adjourned at 12:25p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Minutes approved on the 12th day of October, 2015.



Lois Stotesberry, CMC, NCCEC
Clerk, Hyde County Board of Commissioners



Earl Pugh, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Hyde County Board of Commissioners



Attachment:

Exhibit A: *"PROCLAMATION – State of Emergency for Hyde County - Mandatory Evacuation for Ocracoke Island"*



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF HYDE,
NORTH CAROLINA**

**PROCLAMATION
STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR HYDE COUNTY
MANDATORY EVACUATION FOR OCRACOKE ISLAND**

HURRICANE JOAQUIN

October 1, 2015

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Hyde County Ordinances, Chapter 166 A of the General Statutes and Article 36 A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes, I have determined a State of Emergency exists in Hyde County; and,


WHEREAS, I therefore proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency in the County of Hyde with mandatory evacuation of Ocracoke Island effective as of 3:00 PM on October 1, 2015; and,

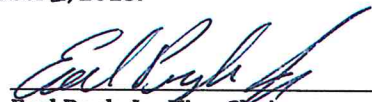
WHEREAS, I hereby direct all county law enforcement officers, county employees, public safety personnel, and all emergency management personnel, subject to my control, to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the emergency as may be necessary or convenient; and,

WHEREAS, I specifically authorize and direct all applicable department heads and their employees to take such steps and to make such applications as may be necessary, useful, or convenient to mitigate the effects of damage to life or property of Hyde County and its residents and persons who work in or who are located in Hyde County arising out of Hurricane Joaquin, and its related weather conditions; and,

Now therefore this proclamation is signed on this date, October 1, 2015, and becomes effective at 12:00 PM on October 1, 2015.

ATTEST:


Lois Stotesberry, Clerk to the Board
Hyde County Board of Commissioners


Earl Pugh, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Hyde County Board of Commissioners

